

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COLOMB 02532 220754Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SSC-01

OMB-01 EB-07 AID-05 TRSE-00 /079 W

-----031813 220800Z /13

O 220700Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO XSECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7739

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KATHAMANDU IMMEDIAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL MADRAS IMMEDIATE

MJUHQBQA/CINCPAC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS COLOMBO 2532

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CE

SUBJ: UNP ELECTION ROUT VIRTUALLY COMPLETE IN SRI LANKA

REF: COLOMBO 2528

1. THE UNITED NATIONAL PARTY'S (UNP) EXTRAORDINARY ELECTION SWEEP IS VIRTUALLY COMPLETE; ITS ELECTED M.P.'S NOW TOTAL 132, 79 PERCENT OF THE 166 SEATS TO BE DECIDED TODAY. (TWO MORE WERE POSTPONED BECAUSE OF A CANDIDATE'S DEATH.) PRE-SIDENT HAS ANNOUNCED THAT HE WILL CALL UPON UNP LEADER J.R. JAYEWARDENE TO FORM A GOVERNMENT AS SOON AS CONSTITUTIONALLY POSSIBLE, I.E., WHEN THE LAST ELECTION RESULT IS ANNOUNCED,
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PROBABLY THIS EVENING.

2. THE NEW MAJOR OPPOSITION PARTY IS THE TAMIL UNITED LIBERATION FRONT (TULF) WITH ITS 16 M.P.S SO FAR. PRIME MINISTER SIRIMAVO BANDARANAIKE'S SRI LANKA FREEDOM PARTY (SLFP) HAS MANAGED TO SALVAGE ONLY 4 SEATS THUS FAR FROM THE WRECKAGE (HERS AND THOSE OF IRRIGATION AND POWER MINISTER MAITHIRIPALA

SENANAYAKE AND TWO NEWCOMERS). WITH THE JUST-ANNOUNCED DEFEAT OF FINANCE MINISTER FELIX R. DIAS BANDARANAIKE, BY 2,300 VOTES THERE IS ONLY ONE REMAINING CABINET RACE TO BE DECIDED, THAT OF EDUCATION MINISTER BADIUDDIN MAHMUD. THERE ARE A TOTAL OF 14 SEATS STILL UNANNOUNCED, MOSTLY IN MULTI-MEMBER CONSTITUENCIES WHERE THE UNP IS CERTAIN OF A FEW MORE SEATS.

3. THE ROUT OF THE TROTSKYITE LANKA SAMA SAMAJA PARTY (LSSP) AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY (CP) WAS EVEN MORE COMPLETE. THE LSSP LEADERSHIP TRIUMVIRATE OF COLVIN DE SILVA, N.M. PERERA, AND LESLIE GUNCWARDENA WAS DEFEATED. OF THE CP'S TWO LEADERS, DR. S.A. WICKREMASINGHE HAS BEEN BEATEN AND PIETER KEUNEMAN'S DEFEAT, WHILE NOT YET ANNOUNCED, SEEMS LIKELY. PERKINS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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Subject: UNP ELECTION ROUT VIRTUALLY COMPLETE IN SRI LANKA
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